SECRET
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Cabinet officers are all Members of the House, almost all interrogation is done directly in the Chamber. Another good feature of the British system is that heads of departments answer for actions of their subordinates.

I drove home slowly in the fog, [redacted] reputed to be the worst of the season. This morn. I noticed that my muffler, although I had walked only a few steps in the open air, was heavily stained by smog. Many people have been wearing masks. There have been numerous deaths from smog's [redacted] effect on the lungs and bronchial apparatus.

Poor Findley Burns, is spite of his ebullient temperament, is beginning to look harassed, as a result of streams of official visitors, including Congressmen, making often outrageous demands for services. We have just settled that E and I are to send flowers to the Rooneys at their hotel. This is said to be expected, whatever that means. It has also been arranged that the US Lines shall furnish him and his party at minimum rates luxurious accommodations on the AMERICA for his return home. It seems he is a member of a House Committee dealing with maritime affairs. On a previous voyage he was displeased with the treatment accorded him, so the steamship company hopes to placate him. In addition, they have wangled a parlour car to be attached to the train for Southampton.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY PEW DATE 6-17-81

December 7, 1962 - Friday

I went to the staff meeting this morning, primarily to wish the attendants an anticipatory Merry Christmas.

I lunched with Victor Santa Cruz, the Chilean Ambassador, and Prince Dimitri at White's, where I saw several other pals. Santa Cruz presented us with a fine bottle of 1952 Cheval Blanc.

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